

Attorney Docket No.: T7093(C)  
Serial No.: 10/568,562  
Filing Date: February 17, 2006  
Confirmation No.: 6500

## **REMARKS**

### ***Election/ Restrictions***

The Examiner has restricted the following inventions:

**Group I:** Claims 1-4 and 9 drawn to an apparatus for preparation of oil and water emulsions.

**Group II:** Claim 5 drawn method of preparing oil and water emulsions in batch process.

**Group III:** Claims 6-7 drawn method of preparing oil and water emulsions utilizing a mixer.

**Group IV:** Claim 8 drawn to a method of preparing a dressing.

Applicants elect with traverse **Group I** claims which encompasses claims 1-4 and 9 drawn to an apparatus for preparation of oil and water emulsions.

### ***Traverse***

The Examiner held that Groups I-IV do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because under Rule 13.2 they lack the same or

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corresponding special technical feature. The Examiner, citing US 6, 280,075 as evidence, asserted that the common feature is not a contribution over the prior art.

Applicants' respectfully point out that this reference was cited as an X reference in the International Preliminary Report on Patentability. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are novel and inventive over US 6, 280,075 in which case the inventions encompassed by Groups I-IV will indeed share a common special technical feature which provides a contribution over the prior art.

If a telephone conversation would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned agent invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael P. Aronson", is written over a horizontal line.

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